SUBJECT No. 58.

Reduction of seigniorage on firewood.

Messrs. (1) Dasappa, Arsikere taluk, (2) Mir Mohamed Sab, Tarikere taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) For the removal of fuel from the State Forests, the seigniorage at present is 6 annas per cart-load. As fuel is one of the necessaries of life, the seigniorage may be reduced from 6 annas to 2 annas.

(2) Most of the District Forests have been constituted as State Forests to the inconvenience of raiyats who were taking fuel and timber for agricultural implements from District Forests. The license fee for a cart of fuel may be reduced to 2 annas for agriculturists.

Reply of Government.—Specific instances of hardship will be considered by the Conservator of Forests.

SUBJECT No. 59.

Sale of tangadi bark.

Mr. Dodda Subba Reddy, Kolar District Board.

Summary of discussion.—The exclusive right of collecting tangadi bark is sold talukwar and hence the poor local people are unable to bid. In the Madras Presidency, this right is sold hobliwar, once in three years, and this may be adopted here.

Reply of Government.—Hobliwar sales have already been ordered in some places. The result of the experiment will be awaited.

SUBJECT No. 60.

Sale of tangadi bark in private holdings.

Mr. Syed Budan Sab, Hiriyur taluk.

Note.—Not discussed owing to the absence of the proposer.

SUBJECT No. 61.

Grant of license to Jodidars.

Messrs. (1) B. Anantarajappa, Ananta Lakshmi Naranappa, Kodandarama Setti, Tumkur taluk, (2) Venkatappa, Venkataramane Gowda, Siddiah, Kankanhalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Licenses to jodidars allowing them to sell the firewood removed from their villages are issued only by the District Forest Officers. This power may be conceded to the Amildars who are now only empowered to allow the removal of firewood for household consumption.

(2) Amildars may be authorized to issue "*Mafi*" licenses for the removal of Forest produce by Inamdars from their Inam villages.

Reply of Government.—Amildars have these powers under the existing rules.

SUBJECT No. 62.

Retail sale of timber.

Messrs. Venkatasamiah, Veerappa and Venkatasubbiah, Chamrajnagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Forest authorities refuse to sell timber in retail on the ground that the departmental rules do not permit it for one month previous to the date of auction. This causes much inconvenience to the poor people desirous of building houses as auction sales are held almost every month. The rules may be suitably modified.

Reply of Government.—The time is not one month but about a week. This is necessary for sorting and arranging the lots. No change in the existing practice is called for.